



The New York State Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.

110 East 40th Street, Suite 300, New York, NY 10016 USA

TELEPHONE: 212-867-7140 | FAX: 212-867-7153 | INTERNATIONAL: +00 followed by number | WEBSITE: www.nyssa-pga.org

MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION S3501 (Bailey) CRNA Collaborative Practice

The New York State Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., urges you to REJECT legislation that would compromise patient safety!

Nurse Anesthetist Scope of Practice S.3501 (Bailey)

This bill would render null and void the longstanding standards of care established by New York State law for the delivery of anesthesia by permitting a nurse anesthetist to administer anesthesia and provide pain therapies without the physical presence and supervision of a qualified physician.

The “collaboration” relationship, as proposed, would eliminate the statewide uniform existing requirement that a physician-anesthesiologist be physically present and immediately available to supervise the nurse anesthetist. Additionally, it would eliminate the statewide uniform existing requirement that the operating surgeon accept responsibility for the supervision of the nurse anesthetist.

A collaborative relationship would create a new, unproven, and lower standard of care for the following reasons:

- The operating room is a unique environment. If a patient undergoing anesthesia develops life-threatening complications, immediate medical intervention is required. A collaborative physician off-site is incapable of providing immediate medical intervention.
- The collaborating physician need not be a physician anesthesiologist and an immediate and effective intervention by the physician most qualified to provide this intervention, namely the physician-anesthesiologist, would not be mandated.

The Department of Veterans Affairs in January 2017 announced that they rejected a collaborative relationship for nurse anesthetists because of significant questions raised about the safety of “solo” certified registered nurse anesthetist model of anesthesia. The outcome of this final rule was to maintain physician-led anesthesia care in all VA hospitals.

The existing standards for the delivery of safe anesthesia care have served the people of New York State well and should not be altered.

The New York State Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc. urges you to REJECT legislation that would compromise patient safety!

Put patient safety first! Support medical care by medical doctors by voting NO on S3501 (Bailey)!

LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATION

Charles J. Assini, Jr., Esq. | NYSSA Legislative Counsel and Representative | Higgins, Roberts & Suprunowicz, P.C. | 1430 Balltown Road, Schenectady, New York 12309
TELEPHONE: 518-374-3399 | FAX: 518-374-9416 | E-MAIL: CJAssini@HRSLaw.us.com and cc: GKCarter@HRSLaw.us.com | WEBSITE: www.HRSLaw.us.com

Robert Reid, Shauneen McNally, Marcy Savage | NYSSA Albany Lobbyists | Reid, McNally & Savage, LLC | 1 Commerce Plaza, Suite 402, Albany, New York 12210
TELEPHONE: 518-465-7330 | FAX: 518-465-0273 | E-MAIL: Bobr@lobbywr.com and cc: Kellyk@lobbywr.com | WEBSITE: www.lobbywr.com

Page 2

S3501 (Bailey)

Senate:

Sponsor: BAILEY

Co-sponsors:

Y